

VALLEY STAR

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LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Valley College Benefits from Grant Money

■ Millions of dollars in grants are available to Valley this year for program use.

By TIFFANY FARMAKIS
STAFF WRITER

Valley College received more than \$3 million from two grants, The Woodbury University and the Workforce Investment Act grants, and has another grant estimated at several million dollars pending.

College faculty and staff are constantly applying for grants to help pay for equipment and revitalize the budget.

"Writing grants is a real art," CalWORKS director Lynn Brower said. "It takes a lot of time to write — you need to know the background information and the needs of the community."

The Woodbury University grant is a Title V contract which provides support to Hispanic-serving institutions. The five-year, \$3 million program is designed to allow Valley students to transfer into Woodbury University, a private, four-year institution.

The U.S. Department of Education Funds grant can be used toward academic instruction, such as providing Writing Center and Supplemental Instruction tutors, and to purchase

See Grants page 6

Loan Reform Submitted to Congress

■ Changing student loans policies is focus of proposal sent to Congress.

By LUIS RIVAS
STAFF WRITER

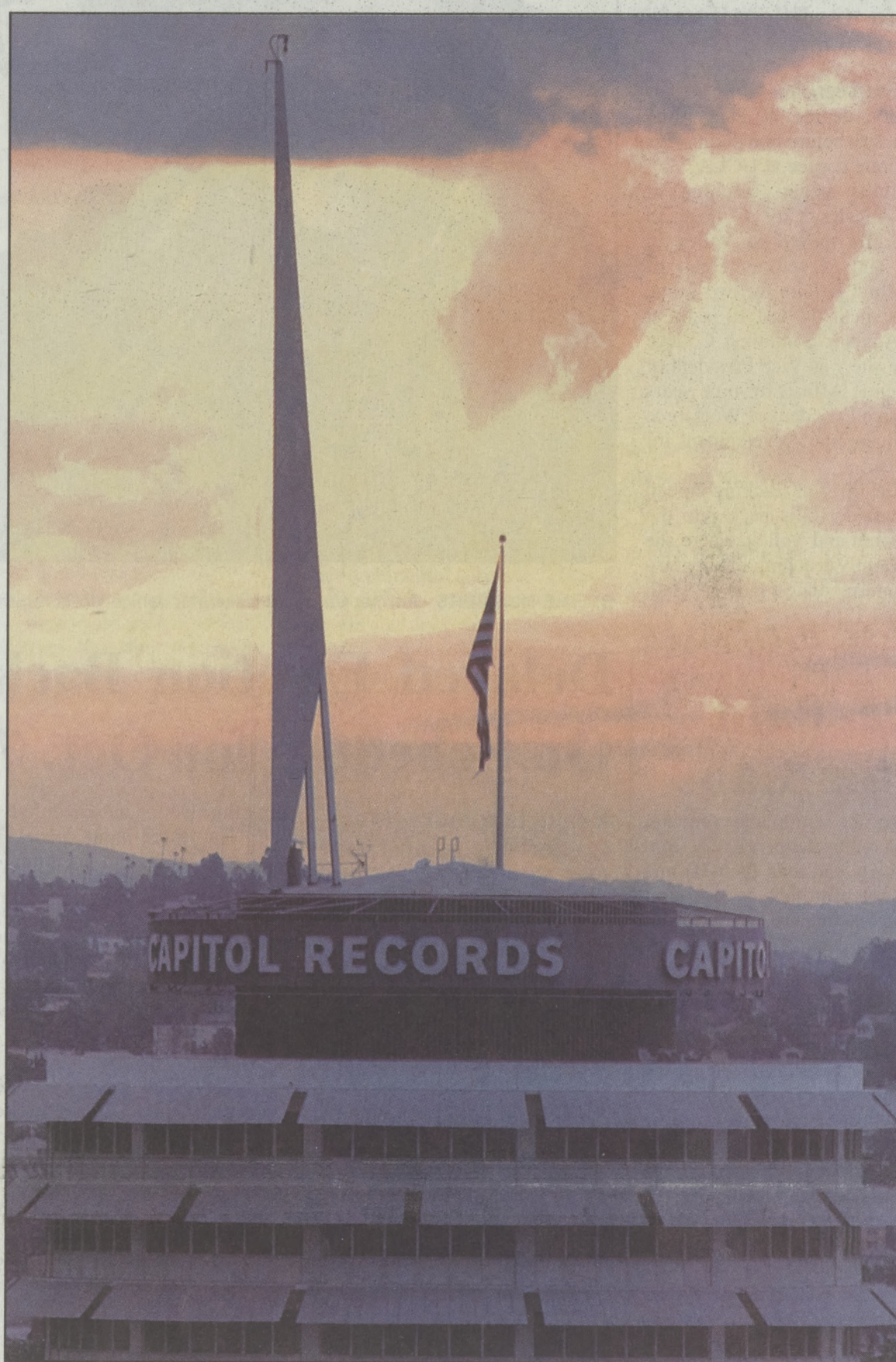
With budget cuts already forcing Valley College to eliminate certain courses and increase the cost from \$11 to \$18 per unit, more and more students are turning toward loans for financial help.

"School loan policies have discouraged students from applying," student Frank Nwabunwanne said. "It's a hassle to get a loan; you need to get approved and have an extraordinary major to convince them you need the money."

Students are looking for alternative measures to fund their education, such as working longer hours and taking out unfavorable loans, because of the rigid student and federal borrowing limits.

The Coalition for Better Student Loans, an organization made up of financial aid administrators, parents, loan providers and representative groups for more than 2,000 colleges and universities, has sent a proposal to Congress stating a plan to increase access to higher education by bolstering the federal student loan programs. They have also requested a \$1 billion fund for loan forgiveness programs.

See Loans page 6



TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR
CAPITOL CRIME - A storm of controversy looms over the music industry as various record labels are filing suit against hundreds of users of popular file-swapping programs. See story on page 2

Senate Bill Gives Fee Waivers to Immigrants

■ Gov. Davis ponders whether to sign controversial bill.

By JONATHAN MAKIRI
STAFF WRITER

The California State Assembly approved SB328 allowing undocumented immigrants to attend California community colleges for free.

The bill extends the

umbrella of financial aid to include undocumented immigrants who qualify for resident tuition. Nearly 3,000 such students currently enrolled at community colleges statewide could qualify for a fee waiver.

To qualify for the waiver, a student must be in the process

of applying for citizenship, live within poverty guidelines, generally \$27,150 for a family of four according to the Copley News Service, have attended a California high school for three years and obtained a diploma

See Waiver page 6

Bustamante: Lower Fees, Higher Taxes

■ Lt. Gov. introduces his tough love campaign to students.

By KRISTA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante spoke at Los Angeles City College Friday, calling for the rollback of the recent \$7 per unit fee increase. Los Angeles Community College District trustees Warren Furutani and Mona Field, LACC President Doris Givens and students from Valley, Mission, Santa Monica, Southwestern and L.A. City colleges joined Bustamante.

"Opportunity rationed is opportunity denied," said Bustamante, addressing the more than 123,000 Californians that would be pushed out the state's community college system. A substantial number would leave LACCD schools,

where student population exceeds 9,300.

California's colleges have created the most productive workforce in America, more than Texas and Florida combined, Bustamante said.

The tuition rollback is part of Bustamante's Tough Love for California plan, which entails higher taxation of alcohol and tobacco products and the state's highest income bracket, along with the promise of closing corporate loopholes. The proposal allocates \$90 million to reverse the fee increase and \$200 million to restore programs and class offerings.

"The biggest, best, most

See Speech page 6

Merit Not a Consideration For Admissions

■ Los Angeles City College student fights for admission into scientific program

By MICHAEL ORDOÑA
OPINION EDITOR

An exasperated City College student stood before the Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees, detailing his academic achievements. He had worked hard to get into the radiologic technology program, he told the board at its Sept. 3 meeting. He had aced all of his prerequisites and finished among the highest scorers in those classes.

But then the rules changed.

"The Rad Tech program abandoned merit as a criterion and adopted a lottery to pick students," he said, "As a result, I was not admitted."

In compliance with Title V, California community colleges changed their admission criteria to impacted programs in 1994. Campuses have been slowly making the transition since, with City College completing the switch this year.

Colleges that cannot accommodate all the students who meet prerequisites for a program need to use some non-evaluative student selection technique, according to the Community Colleges Board of Governors. The colleges generally use lottery or first-come-first-served systems when programs have more applicants than available spots.

Rather than achieve a compromise such as reserving a percentage of spots for the top academic achievers and assigning the rest on a first-come-first-served basis.

Section 8106 bars schools from using evaluative methods such as grades or test scores to determine admission. Therefore, anyone who completes the prerequisites with a low-C average will have the same chance to be randomly selected as the most academically outstanding applicant.

"A simple first-come-first-

served system with a waiting list has the virtue of ensuring that students who are not accepted for a particular term are at least given some assurance that, if they meet established prerequisites, they will get in at some known point in the future," according to the Board of Governors' website.

Carol Rosales, chair of Valley College's Nursing program, said, "I think it's terrible. We miss the best students. As of July 25, we had 231 on the waiting list. I've told students on the list, 'Sorry, take out a loan, go to a private school.' After all, their chances of getting in here are no better than anyone else's, and meanwhile that's a year of lost wages."

Title V guarantees that all students enrolled at community colleges, having completed all prerequisites, will have equal access to programs with the exceptions of athletics and performing arts. This became an issue, Rosales said, because "those under the cream of the crop sat there year after year, never getting in."

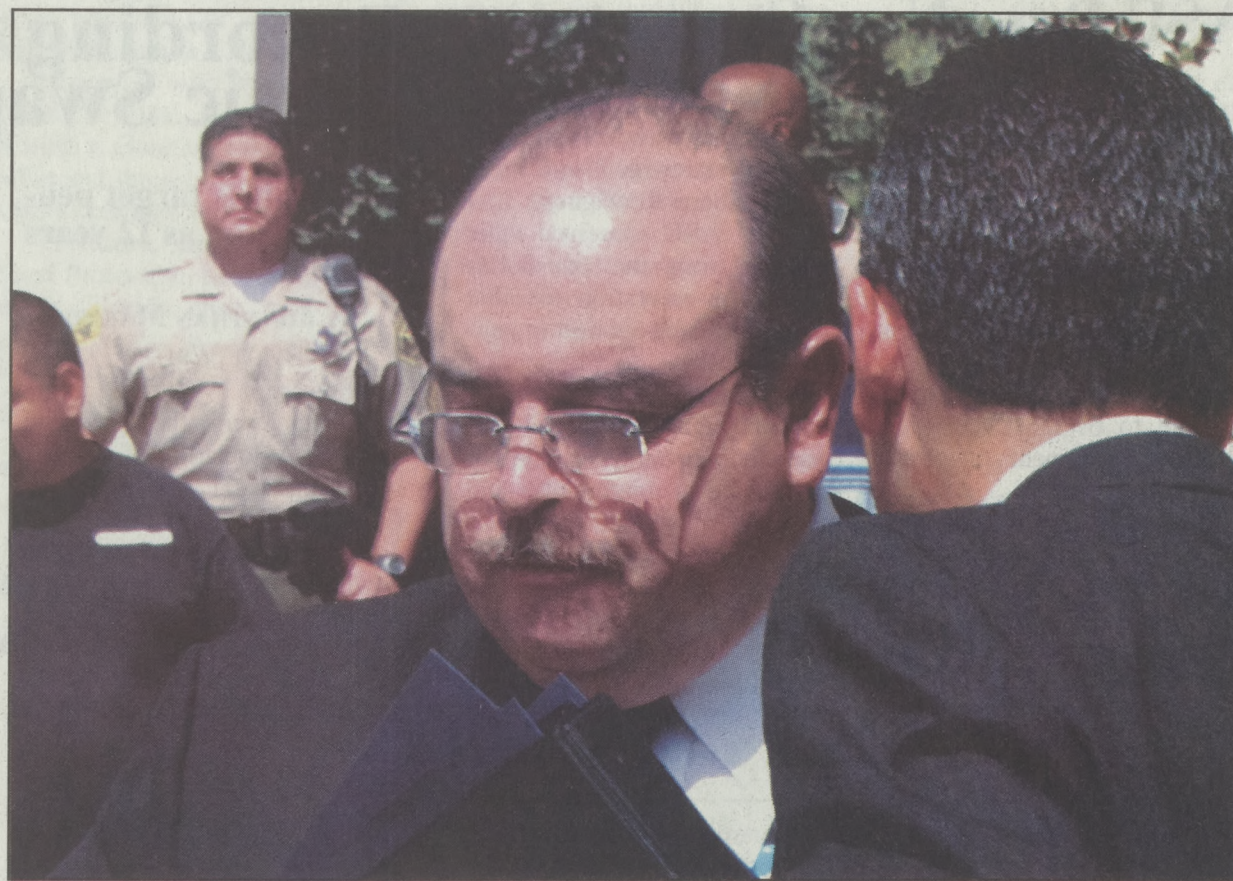
Wendy Hollis, Chair of Health Sciences at Harbor College, said, "There was a student complaint that they did not have equal access. We had to prove that whatever admissions criteria we used did not adversely impact any select group."

"I think this is why our test scores have gone in the dumpster," Chancellor Mark Drummond said at the Trustees meeting.

Rosales agreed, saying that pass rates for the National Council for Licensing Examination from Valley's nursing program were near 100 percent before the policy was instituted; now the program suffers a 33 percent failure rate in the first semester alone, while 45 percent can't finish their training within the planned four semesters and less than 85 percent complete it at all.

"It's been felt throughout

See Merit page 6



BENJAMIN FAVELA/VALLEY STAR

PREACHING FOR CHANGE - Lt. Gov. and gubernatorial candidate Cruz Bustamante listens to an aide during his press conference at Los Angeles City College Friday.

VALLEY LIFE PG. 4
MONARCH OPERA
VALLEY MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS PERFORMANCES FROM OPERA SINGERS AND GUITARISTS

SPORTS PG. 6
GOLAZO
COACH ERIC ACHILA LEADS THE LADY MONARCHS' SOCCER TEAM TO THEIR FOURTH VICTORY

GALLERY PG. 8
MOVIE MAGIC
JORDAN DINAPOLI FOLLOWS VALLEY ALUMNI THROUGH THE MOVIE-MAKING PROCESS

NEWS REEL

CONSTRUCTION:

Mactec Engineering is conducting a geotechnical investigation today and tomorrow, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Parking lot D, the sheriff's office, plant facilities, the reading center, bungalows 49-55 and 62-73, and the south gym will be affected by the construction noise.

TOWN HALL MEETING:

A Town Hall meeting for students, faculty members and local residents will take place tomorrow in the Cafeteria Conference Room from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. to discuss campus redevelopment projects. Sponsored by URS.

LATINO HERITAGE MONTH:

Latino Heritage Month is being observed on campus through Oct. 15. LACCD enrollment numbers estimates 43 percent of student population is comprised of students with Latino heritage.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT INTERVIEWS:

ASU will hold interviews for open positions Tuesday at 12:50 p.m.

Math Professor Returns to Valley After Decade Away

■ Professors strives to return to 'traditional' style of teaching.

BY JONATHAN MAKIRI
STAFF WRITER

Math professor Janice Hollis has returned to Valley College this semester after a 10-year absence to get back to doing what she loves most: teaching math to students.

"My first love is teaching," Hollis said. "To get that nod of understanding from a student, that proverbial light bulb. That is what I am after."

Hollis, a native of Gulfport, Miss., has been teaching college students in Los Angeles County for nearly 30 years. After completing her undergraduate degree at Mississippi Valley State University, Hollis and her husband Herman Jr., moved west to the San Fernando Valley in 1969.

She then went on to complete her Master's degree at Pepperdine University before concluding her Doctorate degree at UCLA.

Hollis began teaching at Los Angeles City College in 1975. She moved to Valley in 1991 and served as Dean of Academic Affairs for two years. Hollis spent the last 10 years at Los Angeles Southwest College where she was Vice President of Academic Affairs for nine years and Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development for one year.

The thrill of teaching though has pulled Hollis back into the classroom and Valley, where she is currently teaching elementary and intermediate algebra (Math 115 and 125).

See Hollis page 6



IRENE KALENTS/VALLEY STAR

BY THE NUMBERS - Former Valley administrator Janice Hollis returns, this time as an algebra teacher.

Valley Cashes in With Pre-Paid Printing Cards in Computer Labs

■ Open labs setting up charges for printer use.

BY KRISTA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Valley College will start a prepay printing program in its' four open computer labs over the coming weeks. Printing will cost 8 cents per page.

The pilot program will be available in Valley's open labs — LAIR, CAIVE, the Writing Center and Lion's Den. Students will be able to load up to \$20 at a time onto their student IDs at two cash-to-card machines on campus, one in Monarch Hall beside the ATM and one in the library.

"In LAIR alone, thousands was being spent on printing costs," said Lori Nalepa, dean of vocational education. Labs ran out of paper and toner, and printers broke down. A freeze on supplies only made matters worse — When something ran out of broke down; it basically meant the end of the line for some time. At times one department would donate paper to another to maintain its' functionality.

The 8-cent fee will meet the cost of the program, and free up the funds that were being spent on printing.

"The school can take that money and use it for something else," said Jorge Mata, manager of college information systems. Department funds budgeted for printing can be diverted to paying for instructional materials.

"If we didn't do something there'd be no supplies," Mata said. "Now you'll be guaranteed your printing," Mata said, with the program's vendor, Output Control Systems, paying paper and toner costs.

The cost to the school is \$15,000 for software licenses for each computer in the four labs and the cash-to-card machines. The program should pay for itself within a year, Nalepa said. Nalepa decided to fund the project from her department's budget to resolve printing issues in CCAIVE, the lab under her department's jurisdiction. The project has been scaled to accommodate Valley's open labs. Lab assistants have been meeting with a task force since February to understand the program.

Students will be able to print as many pages as they can afford, including pages from the Internet. Current restrictions limit the printing maximum to 10 pages. In addition, printing will be available from every computer, eliminating the wait of need a lab technician to print. Print

jobs will be sent to one computer connected to the printer — from there they can load their ID and select the print job.

Most students have reacted with approval. "Ten pages for less than a dollar is fine," student Shant Karnikian said.

The program is expected to eliminate waste by discouraging students from printing something they don't need if they have to pay for it and by being ignoring a job, it will be automatically removed from the print list in an hour. Another feature of the program allows students to select a job in one lab and print in another, if in a hurry.

The fee is markedly less than other printing services, such as Kinko's, where computer printing is 49 cents per page. "They don't just charge you for each printout, they charge you from using the computer and programs," Mata said.

"At first we were against it," said Igor Kagan Associated Student Union commissioner of political affairs, "because of the tuition increase and other expenses for students." Kagan and the ASU board came to accept the idea when they learned that the program would simply pay for itself in addition to relieving a portion of Valley's pressurized budget.

ASU Buys New Computers

■ Unanimous approval to purchase \$11,000 of new equipment.

BY TIFFANY FARMAKIS
STAFF WRITER

The Associated Student Union plans to use \$11,562 for the purchase of 11 new computers said to be in place at the student government office by next month.

The resolution to purchase the new computer equipment passed by a 2-0 vote. The new computers will replace the older, existing computers and are to be used by ASU members and campus clubs.

"These computers will be

used for all activities involved in issues that pertain to students here and statewide," said ASU Adviser Sherri Rodriguez.

The ASU received this funding from the one-dollar student representation fee that all students are required to pay.

According to Education Code 76060.5, the fee can only be used by the ASU to fund educational opportunities including: Attendance at conferences and meetings of student non-partisan organizations; dues and donations to statewide student groups and student lobby associations; purchasing hardware and software for lobbying and

See Approval page 7

In last week's article, "Ex-Lifeguard Arrested for Lewd Conduct" the sequence of events reported was inaccurate. We were incorrect in reporting that the suspect was arrested at the Valley College pool. Rather, the suspect independently turned himself in to police officials at Valley on a charge stemming from the incident at Pierce College. It was at that point the suspect confessed to the incident here. We apologize for the error.

Due to an editorial error in "Lions Roar at Valley," it was incorrectly stated that "Lion in Winter" won 13 Emmys. The director, Garry Ashton, won the awards, not the play.

Delayed Election Back On Schedule for Oct. 7

■ Appellate court reverses decision to postpone Oct. 7 election.

BY PHILLIP ROBERTSON
NEWS EDITOR

An 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the previous decision to postpone the recall election. The court unanimously ruled yesterday in San Francisco that the precedent set by Bush v. Gore doesn't apply to this election.

Last week, a three-judge panel of the court ruled to postpone the election until the six counties — including Los Angeles and San Diego — that use punch card voting systems can replace them. The ruling came after successful arguments by the American Civil Liberties Union that the punch card system could disenfranchise as many as 40,000 voters.

Proponents of the effort to remove Gov. Gray Davis from office argued that the recall election must take place on Oct. 7 as originally scheduled, in order to comply with election procedures outlined in the California State Constitution.

On Sept. 16, Secretary of State Kevin Shelley issued a directive to all counties to continue moving forward with plan-

ning the election as scheduled.

"The three-judge panel in this case made no mention of the fact that the Oct. 7 election is already underway," Shelley said. Shelly argued that the postponement interferes with the election process, and that state and local governments have already spent \$30 to \$50 million.

James Brevard, president of Valley College's Associated Student Union said Shelley had grounds to complain. "Everything costs money," he said. "The election should take place. I want to get it done with." The ASU Board has not followed the recommendations of the Los Angeles Community Colleges district board to condemn the recall.

The candidates reacted to the postponement shortly after the decision was announced. Republican candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger condemned the action of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. "Historically, the courts have upheld the rights of voters and I expect the court to do so in this case," Schwarzenegger said.

"I'd like to get it over with already," said Mona Field, president of the L.A. Community College District Board of Trustees, "but the court is right that we're not ready for a recall election."

Recording Industry Targets Music Swappers with Lawsuits

■ Big labels target people as young as 12 years old.

BY JONATHAN MAKIRI
STAFF WRITER

Beware, Kazaa and Morpheus users, the Recording Industry Association of America is taking legal action against file-swappers just like you.

The days of anonymously downloading and sharing copyrighted music without paying a penalty appear to be coming to an end — or so the RIAA would like us all to believe.

The trade association and lobbying company that represents media conglomerates such as Sony, Vivendi, Bertelsmann, EMI, and others, filed 261 federal lawsuits earlier this month against individual peer-to-peer (P2P) file-sharers in what appears to be an attempt to alter the mind-set of downloading Americans.

"Nobody likes playing the heavy and having to resort to litigation," said RIAA president Cary Sherman, "But when your product is being regularly stolen, there comes a time when you have to take appropriate action."

The suits are believed to be the first wave of lawsuits the RIAA plans to submit. An additional 1,600 subpoenas in progress will force Internet service providers such as Adelphia, SBC and Earthlink, to identify IP addresses and their users who have participated substantially (averaging more than 1,000 copyrighted music files each) in the distribution of copyrighted material over various P2P networks.

The RIAA has offered an amnesty program to infringers who voluntarily identify themselves, erase all their downloaded music files and agree not to share any music over the Internet in the future.

"I won't take the amnesty offer," said Alex Bandi, a Valley College student who has been downloading and sharing music for over two years. "Who are they going after anyway? How likely am I to be subpoenaed?"

The Electronic Frontier Foundation in San Francisco, a donor-supported organization committed to protecting digital rights, is advising potential subpoena recipients to sit tight for a while before handing

over their admissions of guilt.

The amnesty offer does not apply to those already being sued or those among the subpoenas list. Individuals accepting the amnesty program are not protected from potential litigation by independent labels or unhappy songwriters.

"Rather than demanding that 60 million people sharing music files turn themselves in with a so-called 'amnesty' program, the recording industry should take this opportunity to make file-sharing legal in exchange for a reasonable fee," EFF attorney Wendy Seltzer said.

Sixty-seven percent of adult Americans who download music from the internet don't care about whether the music they download is copyrighted, according to a recent survey conducted by the Pew Internet & American Life Project. Twenty-seven percent say they do care and 6 percent say they don't have a position or know enough about the issue.

Regardless of the pending litigation many people continue to seek out free music and

See RIAA page 6

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OPINION

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ONE WAY OR ANOTHER

EACH WEEK, THE VALLEY STAR EXAMINES AN ISSUE FROM TWO SIDES.
THIS WEEK: SHOULD YOU VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE YOU KNOW WON'T WIN?

"BETTER THAN" ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH

By TAMMY ABBOTT
Valley Life Editor

I am repelled to hear potential voters utter the phrase "better than" regarding the recall election. It is too vague; too meaningless and frankly, a little slippery.

We have the freedom, duty and privilege to vote for the candidate we believe offers the best solutions to the complicated problems that are facing our state — not simply one who is "better than" the most repugnant frontrunner.

California has the world's fifth-largest economy and 38 million people; it shouldn't be run by a candidate who is the

"This is not a question of right or left, it's a question of right or wrong."

lesser of two electoral evils.

Change can be uncomfortable and to vote outside the usual Democratic and Republican lines may feel strange. But with change comes opportunity, and with this recall the stage has been set for an anything-can-happen election.

People worry that voting for third-party candidates is akin to throwing their votes away because the front-runners whom they despise are sure to win anyway. But if not now, then when? Change starts with you.

No candidate has a clear majority; there may never be a better time than now to vote for someone off the beaten path.

It's amazing, if you think about it. An independent such as Arianna Huffington could win if people were more focused on issues than polls. She was right on the mark in her brief statement in the voters' guide when she said, "This is not a

question of right or left; it's a question of right or wrong."

The struggle for democracy is as old as the ancient Greeks and Romans. In the late 18th century, from the outrage of a few magnificent minds — Adams, Jefferson, Paine, Franklin, Madison — came the genius of our American democracy, but it will wither and die from neglect if the people do not pay close attention and protect it from those who would use it for their own greed and glory.

Vote! Vote in every election. Let those who wish to represent us know that they are watched and that they must pay close attention to our will. They must tell us who they are, what their ideas are and how they intend to solve California's problems.

There is no more powerful force in a democracy than an informed electorate that resolutely goes to the polls and votes its conscience.

In the voters' guide you should have received by now, the Green Party's Peter Camejo tells you where he stands and makes proposals on issues that can make you imagine what a wonderful world this could be.

The voters' guide is a wealth of candidates' ideas and philosophies. Read them!

The most important thing you can do as a citizen is to be well-informed and vote for the candidate you most believe in. When you punch that ballot, remember your vote can change the world.

Your vote for the person you believe will do the best job is the voice of the people speaking clearly.

And maybe when the results are in, we might hear "imagine that," instead of "better than."

THE (SECOND) MOST DANGEROUS GAME

By MICHAEL ORDOÑA
Opinion Editor

It hurts to write this.

People talk about "voting their conscience," which in this case means voting for someone they like, but know can't win. But unless both front-runners are total anathema to you, and especially if only one of them is, that's not voting your conscience—it's voting your ignorance.

If you believe that a Schwarzenegger administration under the advisement of former Reagan Secretary of State George Schultz and Pete "Three Strikes/Prop 187" Wilson would be bad for California, you're not helping by voting for Arianna Huffington or Pete Camejo.

The 2000 Presidential Election was decided by the winner of Florida—a 1,725-vote margin of victory for George Bush. Meanwhile, 96,837 Floridians picked Ralph Nader. If just 2 percent of those Nader backers had voted strategically, the world would be a different place today.

Now millions of fed-up Californians face the same choice. With polls showing Bustamante and Schwarzenegger separated by only a few points, the race is simply too close to call. The 5 percent that Huffington and Camejo are tracking could well be the difference come Oct. 7, and this election is far too important to throw away on principle.

If I could magically pick the new governor from the 134 candidates, I'd choose the one with the master's in economics from Cambridge, the author of nine books, who is extremely well-informed on a wide variety of topics and absolutely not beholden to special interests.

But Arianna Huffington doesn't have a prayer of winning this election, so I'm using my vote as a sandbag in Bustamante's dam against the flood of right-wing money and influence.

That's the key: Your vote is an important tool in the machinery of democracy. It's not a badge you get to hold up at the end of the race and say, "I voted on principle, aren't I neat?" If you care about California, the stakes are far too high to play games with this election.

Nader voters stood up for their 'principles,' and look how much that helped promote the legitimacy of third parties. I doubt those principles included the massive tax breaks for the wealthy, attacks on civil rights and doctrine of preemptive war that Bush has bestowed upon us. Now people are so disenfranchised that even an excellent independent candidate like Huffington can't poll above single digits.

If you really want to promote third parties, put your money where your mouth is. Contribute to their campaigns, hit the streets, go to rallies, answer polls and most importantly—lobby your representatives for public financing of campaigns. Work practically to make positive change. Throwing your vote away, with the stakes this high, simply won't help.

If the two leading candidates weren't so close in the polls, I'd feel free to vote for the best candidate. But that's not the case, so I have to vote for the best choice among those who can win. I ask you to do the same.

Use your power wisely. Make a difference. Vote strategically.

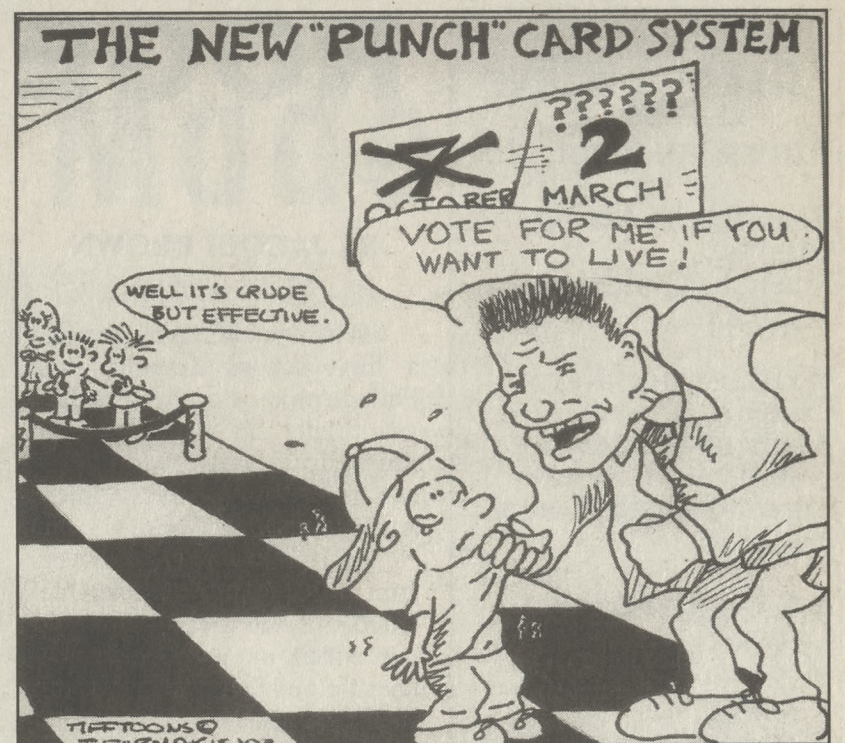


ILLUSTRATION BY TIFFANY FARMAKIS / VALLEY STAR

STAFF EDITORIAL

Measurably Off-Center

It's said that there are lies, there are damned lies and there are statistics. Or is it that statistics don't lie to people, people lie with statistics?

Case in point: The much-ballyhooed May 2003 Bush Tax Cut, a \$350 billion plan to give struggling Americans badly-needed relief and stimulate the sagging economy. Despite recent gains, the country has lost 2.7 million jobs since 2000 and suffered the highest unemployment rate in nine years.

The administration's solution was to slash taxes, giving money back to citizens who would then re-invest in the economy by buying goods and services, while the wealthiest Americans would invest in the stock market and create jobs. The president then announced that 91 million taxpayers would receive an average reduction of \$1,083 this year.

That sounds delightful. I don't know about you, but I could use an extra \$1,083. But just for laughs, let's pretend we're students of Elementary Statistics and have a closer look at these numbers.

Among the most basic statistical concepts are measures of center — Average/mean, median and mode. President Bush told us the mean rebate for 91 million households equals \$1,083, and most respected analysts agree with this statement. However, most respected analysts also agree that 83 percent of households will receive considerably less than \$1,083.

But Mr. Wizard, how can this be? To understand this, consider an often more telling measure of center: the median, or the value closest to the middle of all the values when arranged from least to greatest.

If 49 homeless people were at a clam bake with Bill Gates, the first 49 incomes on that list would equal \$0. Therefore, the median—between the 25th and 26th out of 50—would also be \$0. However, the mean income at that party would be \$1 billion, as the Democrats delightedly point out on their website. In other words, while the average (mean) may be \$1,083, the median may be considerably lower.

How low? Another measure of center is the mode, or the value that most frequently appears. Of those 91 million households, 24 million will receive \$100 or less. But even that low range from \$1 to \$100 is not the most-frequently appearing value. Believe it or not, 50 million households will receive nothing—nada, zilch, zip. So in this case, the mode is \$0.

Whaaaaa??? Another basic statistical concept is that of "outliers"—or values which are far away from the pack. Outliers can have an extreme influence on averages. At our clam bake, 98 percent of the incomes are \$0 but the outlier, Gates' income, is around \$50 billion. His presence raises the average wealth in the room to \$1 billion, but 49 of those folks will still be homeless tomorrow.

With the tax cut, since the overwhelming majority will receive less than the stated average of \$1,083, someone receiving, say, \$16,511 would be an outlier. Like, say, President Bush.

If 49 homeless people were at a clam bake with Bill Gates, the average (mean) income at that party would be \$1 billion.

But the president would not even be considered an extreme outlier, despite the fact that he will receive nearly 16 times the stated average, and 160 times what 73 million households will. Extreme outliers would be more like cybernetic Vice President Dick Cheney (\$104,823) or mummified Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, who reportedly will get back upwards of \$200,000.

Forty percent of the tax cut goes to the richest one percent of Americans according to Citizens For Tax Justice, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research organization.

What's more, provisions friendly to the "average" American such as the increase to the child tax credit and elimination of the marriage penalty expire in 2004, while the reduction of dividend taxes—most dramatically affecting the "above-average" American—doesn't expire until 2009 and there's already a GOP crusade to be made it permanent.

Finally, generous tax cuts for businesses were included to increase employment. However, among the two million small business owners receiving an average cut of \$2,209, again 83 percent will receive less than that amount and 33 percent will get less than \$100 — as columnist Robert Shapiro wrote, "scant incentive or means to create jobs."

It just goes to show, the means justify the mode, or, "There are liars, there are outliers, and there are statistics."

Data included in this article are available from Citizens for Tax Justice, the Children's Defense Fund, Slate Magazine, and the Democratic Party.

Broward County In Reverse

By MICHAEL ORDOÑA
Opinion Editor

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Bush v. Gore (2000) that Florida's recounts to determine voter intent violated the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection guarantee. The concerned clause states, essentially, that each vote shall have equal weight.

In a mind-bending display of pretzel logic, the high court wrote that recounting only the contested votes, such as those in Broward County, gave them greater weight than the millions of other tallies about which there was no controversy.

Joseph Heller and George

Orwell should have sued for plagiarism.

Now that an appeals panel has overturned the 9th Circuit Court's initial ruling to delay the California recall election, one might expect the ACLU to press the case to the Supreme Court, forcing the first true test of Bush v. Gore.

Unfortunately, that tent in the circus has been closed.

The ACLU has already announced it will not appeal the decision, citing concerns over voter confusion. The freak show, however, is open for business.

The Circuit Court ruled last week to delay the recall until outdated punch-card voting systems could be replaced, an ongoing process scheduled for completion by the March 2004 primary election. This decision was based on — you guessed it

— an Equal Protection claim.

Six counties, comprising 44 percent of California's voters, would have to use the punch-cards for a ballot with 134 randomly-arranged candidates. These counties, including Los Angeles, contain a disproportionately large number of lower income and immigrant voters.

Experts say those are the voters most likely to make errors using this system — so their votes are more likely to be discarded. That is hardly Equal Protection.

According to expert testimony, punch-cards cause 2.5 times as many errors as the more technologically advanced methods used in most California counties, resulting in an estimated 40,000 legitimate votes going uncounted. This is why former Secretary of State Bill Jones, a

Republican, mandated in 2001 that the punch card systems be universally replaced.

The U.S. Supreme Court, with its seven Republican appointees, opened itself to accusations of playing partisan politics by meddling in Florida's election and was going to have to do so again in California's recall brouhaha, or admit that Bush v. Gore was a sham.

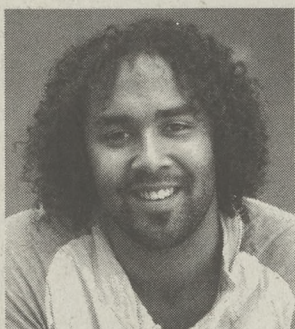
However, with the Circuit Court's reversal, the supporters of Bush v. Gore have dodged the bullet and the recall will go forward as planned on Oct. 7.

Therefore, the guarantee of Equal Protection, held so highly in the Florida case, will not apply to voters in Los Angeles, San Diego, and four other California counties.

It's Broward County in reverse.

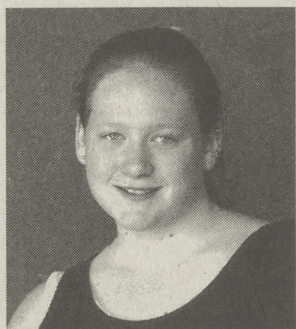
Campus View

PHOTOS BY WENDY ALVARADO



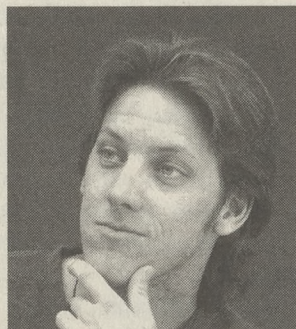
"I don't think it's a wasted vote because every vote counts."

Rhys McArthur



"I don't think it's a wasted vote because if they feel strong about it, they should be heard."

LaGina Phillips



"I wouldn't say it was a wasted vote."

Tyler Rinehart



"It's a wasted vote. People should vote for Republicans or Democrats because they're the ones who always win."

Amalia Torres

Is Voting for a Third Party Candidate a Wasted Vote?

Agree? Disagree?

The Valley Star welcomes your comments and criticism.

E-mail us at TheValleyStar@yahoo.com or drop us a line at BJ114. Be sure to include your name and contact information. Please limit your letters to 200-300 words. Letters may be edited for publication.

TheValleyStar@yahoo.com
www.LAValleyStar.com
(818) 947-2576

CAMPUS SCENE

Thursday Sept. 25

Beaudelaire String Quartet
Music Recital Hall
11:30 a.m.

Writing your 4-year College
Application Essay
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Career/Transfer Center
Ext 2646

A.S.U. Inter-Club Council Meeting
1:00 p.m. CC104
ASU Office (818)778-5516

Town Hall Meeting Cafeteria Conference Center
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Reminder: Deadline to File for Graduation For Fall 2003

Friday Sept. 26

81st L.A. County Fair
Sept. 12-28
www.lacountyfair.com

Sunday Sept. 28

Media Arts Department
Student Screening
Fall 2002/ Spring 2003
Main Stage Theatre
6:00 p.m.
Students & Faculty Free

ROGER GRAHAM: *A One Man Show*

BY JACQUI BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Who would have thought a high school dropout from Philadelphia would resurface years later as a professor of Journalism and Photography and be listed in "Who's Who in America and the World."

In 1958, after his two-year stint in the Navy, Graham decided to hitch a ride to Alaska but ended up in Los Angeles because of a wrong turn at Yellowstone.

"When I got here I had no money at all," Graham said. "I remembered my Navy buddy's sister lived in Canoga Park, so I took a bus out there. My friend gave me \$20 and helped me find a room in Van Nuys."

Navy pal Don White encouraged Graham to take a class with him at Valley College. Graham learned from a counselor that everyone 18 or older in California is allowed to attend college, whether or not they have completed

high school. That was the beginning of what would add up to more than 70 semesters on the Valley campus.

"I took journalism because every big event I saw, the journalists always had the best seats,

like the 50 yard line or ringside at the boxing matches," Graham said. "I thought I could get free tickets to a lot of things."

Dr. Ester Davis, who at the time headed the journalism department at Valley, encouraged him to take photography. He moved into the garage of a house across the street from the college. Graham had to quit his part-time job because of the added class load and Davis offered him an opportunity to sell advertising for the Valley Star to earn some

money. He served as the director of advertising, wrote editorials and took award-winning photographs.
Graham

finished his college education at Fresno State and went on to work for The Turlock Daily Journal and the Fresno Guide before trying his hand at teaching. He took a position at Riverdale Elementary School just outside of Fresno as a fifth grade teacher, taking a 60 percent cut in salary. That was when he truly found his passion for teaching and

began accumulating his teaching credentials for elementary school, middle school and high school. Still not satisfied, he earned his counselor credentials, college president credentials, chancellor credentials and his master's degree.

He taught for a year at Sierra Conservation Center, a prison in Jamestown, California, where he helped publish the prison's newspaper, 'The Nugget.' He left there to teach basic education for a Migrant Education Program in the war on poverty.

"It's one of the only times in my life that I felt I really made a difference," Graham said. "I put the classes where the students were — from Bakersfield to Stockton."

Graham was given opportunities by many other colleges during his years as an educator but he felt a strong sense of loyalty to Valley, the college he says gave him a chance. He returned in the fall of 1968 and has been here ever since.

He finished the course work for his doctorate at UCLA as an honor student but due to his divorce was unable to complete the dissertation.

Although Graham retired a few years ago, he's keeping a few irons in the fire. He continues to teach a few classes for the GAIN (Greater Avenues for Independence) Department as well as mass media, a course he founded 25 years ago.

The one regret that still nudges at his heart is that he was not in a financial position to join the Peace Corps after finishing his college education in Fresno.

"I had a four-year degree and bills to pay. Seventy-five dollars a month was not a luxury I could afford back then," Graham said. "I still think about it to this day."

Graham's first book, "L.A. to Philly: A Look Back," offered the reader a glimpse into his life. He is currently working on a sequel. He is compiling "50 Years Of LAVC," a pictorial look through the last five decades on campus. He has just finished a collaborative effort entitled, "We Remember WWII."

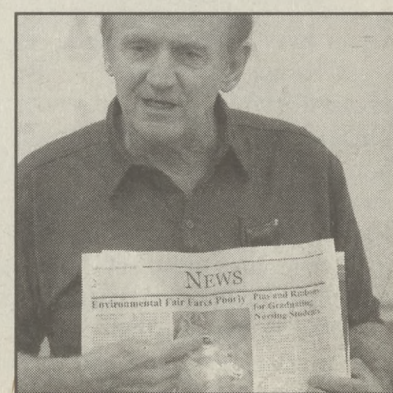


Photo by Salvador Aguilar

REFOCUSING On Education

By Jacqui Brown
Staff Writer

In the past a woman's place was in the kitchen — at home raising children and keeping house. Though this may be the case for some today, many have put away the dish gloves in exchange for textbooks.

Enrollment of female students 35 and older has nearly doubled since 1972, according to a report from the Los Angeles Community College District. As of fall 2002, this group makes up 26 percent of enrolled students at Valley College according to Cherine Trombley, Dean of Research and Planning.

"I've been back at school for three years after being away for 20," Michelle Wolfe said. Wolfe works part time while completing the nursing program at Valley. "I had a lot of the general education stuff done after high school, but I didn't get my AA degree. Fortunately it all counted when I came back and, by the time I got

my prerequisites done [for the nursing program] I got my AA. When I'm done with the nursing program, I'll have my AS degree as well."

Fast forward a few generations, step out of the traditional mindset and you're more than likely to find that the baby boomers are refocusing on the future by flocking back to colleges across the nation as the empty nest phase comes to be reality. Instead of dinner on the dining table there are textbooks and computers, notebooks filled with lecture notes, e-mail addresses and lists of Internet resources.

"The course of life changes," said student Danielle Harris, who returned to College this year after a long hiatus from school. Harris had tried her hand at college years ago and found it too difficult then. "You have children, you can't focus and you're just not ready for school. My kids are teenagers now and I have time off work — so I'm back at school trying to com-

plete what I started years ago," Harris said.

Raising a family and meeting financial obligations has often left women with one option — to put their education on hold. The change of this trend is visible on college campuses across the nation. Diverse educational objectives, ranging from moving into the workforce for the first time to rising up the corporate ladder, bring in increasing numbers of older female students.

"I've been out of school since 1986," said Linda Durfield, who was busy working and raising six kids. "I want to get a degree and find a really good job." Durfield works at Valley in the computer department and studies computer applications and technology, and plans to get her AA and go into business education. When asked what her children thought of her going back to school at this point in her life, she smiled. "They think mom is smart and they tell me to go for it," Durfield said.

Take a Hike

By Kathy Arellano, Staff Writer

In our back yard is an ever-changing kaleidoscope of vegetation, climate, weather patterns and wildlife. Coastal, mountain, and desert trails provide outdoor enthusiasts with opportunities to enjoy the scenic beauty unique to each area.

Hiking is an inexpensive activity that's accessible to all ages and offers a variety of options, depending on your physical abilities. Los Angeles area residents are fortunate to have many interesting environments within a 50-mile radius of the San Fernando Valley. Taking a short hike along a local paved fire road can be a welcome break from a busy, eyes-glued-to-the-monitor weekend. You can breathe deeply and tune into the sights and sounds that abound in an unspoiled area.

The Sierra Club and others have regularly scheduled hikes for nature and bird-lovers. Some nature hikes are designed espe-

cially for families with small children and their pets, some established trails are wheelchair accessible.

Getting prepared is simple. Slip on a sturdy pair of hiking shoes or boots. Grab a simple walking stick, a comfortable hat, sunscreen, energy food, water and a map of the area. For the more serious trekker, hiking and backpacking goodies abound. The enthusiastic consumer can spend hundreds of dollars on basics at stores such as REI and Sport Chalet, and these stores provide top-of-the-line equipment and expert advice.

No one expects to get lost, or wants to be caught unprepared in rugged areas. Novice hikers are urged to follow basic safety rules. First, stick to the trail. Accidents happen when a hiker ventures into uncharted territory. Let someone know your plan — although you may be headed for a two-hour hike that's 15 miles

from home, let a friend or family member know where you're going and when you expect to return. Carry plenty of water, even if it feels heavy. Take a jacket and dress in layers; daytime temperatures can be in the 80s and 90s, but nighttime temperatures drop into the 40s in some areas. Finally, bring an emergency kit. You never know when you will need it. Proper warm-up is important before any physical activity and hiking is no exception. Be sure to stretch and warm up, based on your own ability. It is always recommended to go with someone else if possible.

If you have overestimated your stamina or underestimated the difficulty of the hike, rest and evaluate your exertion level before proceeding. Regular exercise will prepare your body for an easy hike.

In the next installment of *Take a Hike: Will Rogers Park*, Jordan DiNapoli/Valley Star

GOT TO SING, HAVE TO LAUGH

By Harriet Steinberg
Staff Writer

Opening on a happy note, and filling the air with beautiful music was the talented Catherine Davis Fox, soprano, and Philip McNiven, tenor, the first performers to take the stage for the weekly 11:30 a.m. Thursday concert series at Valley College.

The weekly concert series is sponsored by the music department and the Associate Student Union.

The program consisted of many familiar tunes from well-known shows and composers. First on the program was "You are Music" from "Phantom of the Opera." The performance also included the popular mel-

"I liked the high notes of the soprano and the interaction of the two singers."

odies "Anything You Can Do" from "Annie Get your Gun," "Indian Love Call" from "Rose Marie," and "Wanting You" from "New Moon."

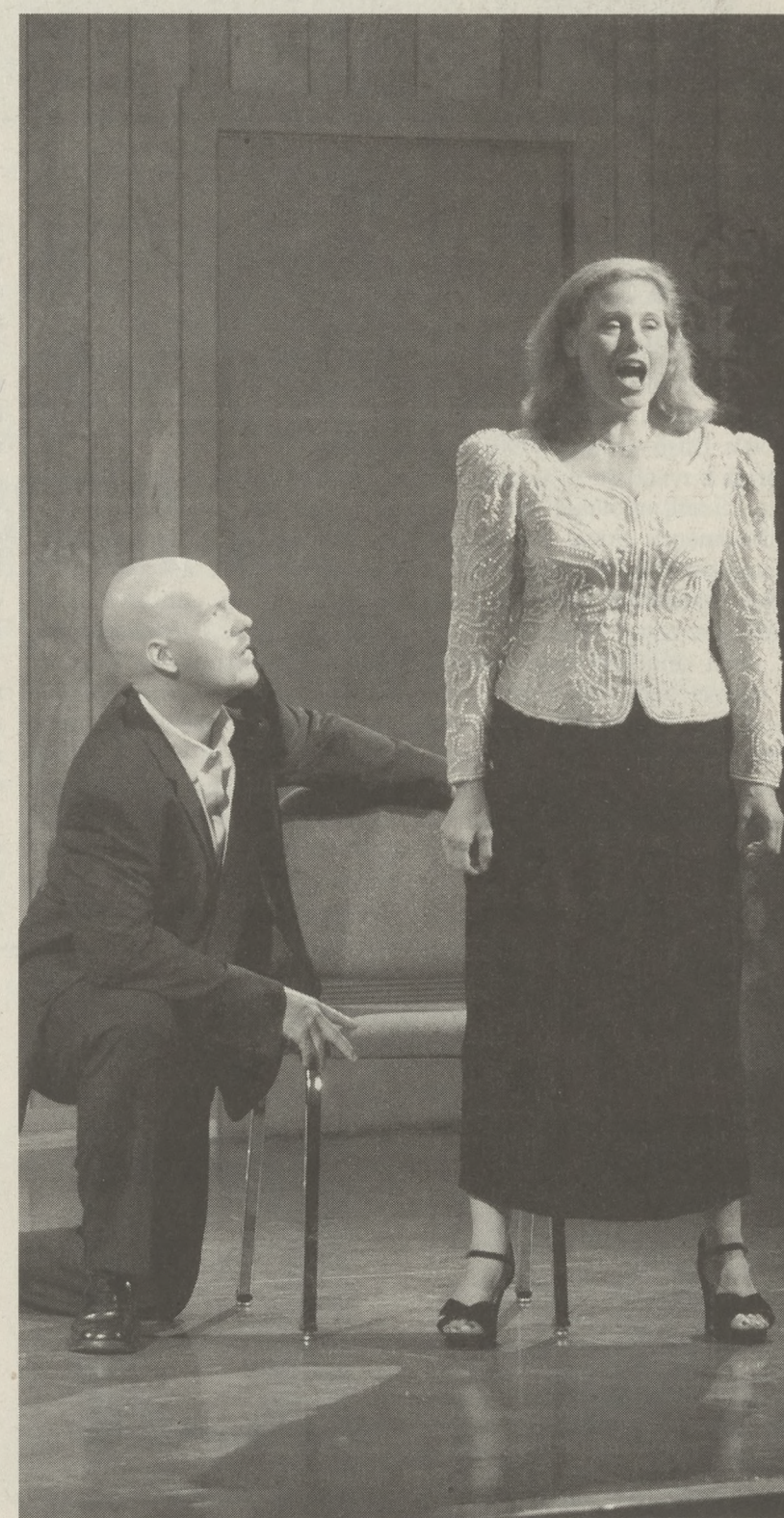
The uniqueness of this concert was the comedy act and clever dialogue between each piece of music. "It's very interesting," Valley music student Keith Price said. "I liked the high notes of the soprano and the interaction of the two singers."

Pianist Mihyun Chun, a former Valley student, and flutist Meg Ryan accompanied Fox and McNiven. The pianist's scaling of several octaves created an effective dynamic.

Cox has appeared at the Ford Amphitheatre and played at the Los Angeles Cinegrill in

"An Evening of Gilbert & Sullivan. McNiven appears regularly on the TV show SCRUBS in an acappella group, The Blanks. The Blanks will release a CD this fall.

"They were wonderful," music student Robyn Rose said, "great chemistry together."



Benjamin Favela/Valley Star

A LITTLE HIGHER - Soprano Catherine Davis Cox, right, belts out a high note as the audience and tenor Philip McNiven, left, watch during Thursday's performance.

VALLEY LIFE

5

What Are Little Grrrls Made Of?

BY MICHAEL ORDOÑA
OPINION EDITOR

In a down year for cinema so far, three films stand above the rest — and they're all about young women. Or more accurately, grrrls.

Perhaps because corporate filmmaking continues to narrow its focus to its prize demographic — teenage boys — films like "Bend It Like Beckham," "The Magdalene Sisters" and "Thirteen" fly under the radar. That's both good and bad: they don't get the promotion they deserve, but they're relatively unfettered with in production.

Director and co-writer Gurinder Chadha's "Bend It Like Beckham" is a breezy, sassy charmer that has become one of the biggest-grossing British films ever. "Beckham" follows a teenage girl (Parminda Nagra of "ER") of Indian descent who

has fallen madly in love... with soccer. She meets a like-minded local played by Keira Knightley ("Pirates of the Caribbean") and the two get their kicks.

You don't have to be into soccer to enjoy this movie. "Beckham" glides by on humor, a sincere girl power message and fine performances. The protagonist's family is drawn with the piquant ethnic detail that makes movies like "Moonstruck" and "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" memorable.

On the other end of the spectrum is Peter Mullan's "The Magdalene Sisters," a stark document of cruelty and sexual subjugation in the name of religion. Based on actual events, it concerns four young women who are forced into indefinite servitude in the Magdalene Laundries in 1960s Ireland.

What did these sinners do to deserve this punishment? One made the mistake of turn-

ing in the cousin who raped her. Another was imprisoned for the crime of attracting boys—not doing anything with them, just attracting them.

The last Magdalene Laundry closed in 1996 and the Catholic Church has issued a formal apology for its practices.

Carried by strong, grounded performances and no-nonsense direction, "The Magdalene Sisters" is one of the most infuriating films of the year.

"Thirteen," meanwhile, is every parent's nightmare. A bright young girl tries to grow up fast by attaching herself to the wildest girl in school and ends up on the fast track to oblivion. Evan Rachel Wood delivers a dead-on performance as the not-so-innocent girl who turns around one day to find herself completely out of control. Holly Hunter may well get another Oscar nomination for her truthful turn as Cook's lov-

ing, struggling, single mom.

First-time director Catherine Hardwicke co-wrote the script with now-15-year-old Nikki Reed, purportedly based on Reed's own experiences. Reed plays the wild girl and imbues the role with a disturbing authenticity.

The ease with which she lies her way out of trouble is chillingly believable.

Although a cautionary tale, the film manages not to turn into an after-school special by retaining an unflinching grittiness and by avoiding unearned emotion. "Thirteen" is one of the most disturbing films of 2003.

All of these films are still in theatres, a welcome respite after nine months dominated by sequels and MTV smash-em-ups aimed squarely at 15-year-old boys. Thank heaven for little grrrls.



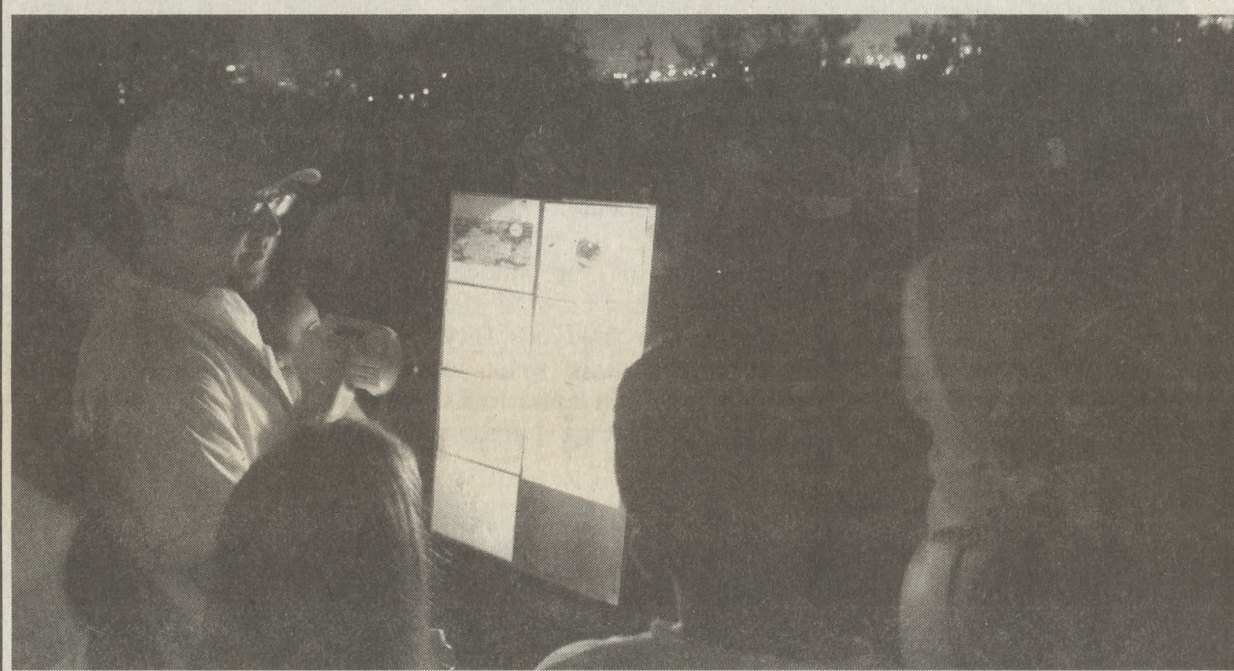
TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

A GRRRL THING - Rachel Sardi makes herself up before facing the day.



IRENE KALENTS/VALLEY STAR

MISS PASSION AND MR. SENSITIVITY - The Catavina Duo; guitarist Denis Azabajic and flutist Eugenia Moliner premiering "La Maja y el Hechicero" (The Maiden and The Sorcerer) by composer Carlos Rivera at the Valley College recital hall.



TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

LEARNING - More than 10,000 people of all ages flock to the Gene Autry Museum on night August 26, 2003 to get a close up view of the planet.

Mars Makes Its Appearance

BY SUSAN MALTBY
STAFF WRITER

Look up at the night sky for a chance see Mars as it looked 60,000 years ago, the glowing red planet won't be this close for another 284 years.

The "Mars Returns!" show presented by the Los Angeles Valley College Earth Science Astronomy Group on Friday was a sold out event. Impressive features included recent Hubble photos; topographical, geological and orbital facts; data surrounding NASA Mars missions and the Mars Global Surveyor; and an observatory view of Mars from the rooftop Celestron 16-inch telescope.

The cloudless evening was great for viewing mars, although air pollution, atmospheric turbulence and light from the urban sky prevented viewers from making out the polar ice caps or

surface features of the planet.

Astronomy Group member, Hugo Festner, has been with the club for more than 15 years and was pleased with the telescope image viewers enjoyed. As some people looked through the telescope they commented that Mars appeared really red, and others were disappointed that the image was white and blurry.

"Sometimes astronomers tend to see things that they really want to see," Festner said. He told observers about Chapparelli, an astronomer from the 1700s who was sure he could see canals on Mars. Astronomer Percival Lowell also drew detailed pictures in the late 1800s of what he thought were changes in vegetation on the planet. Sadly, even the famous "face on Mars" picture was just an illusion explained away by science as a camera lens grid.



TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

LOOKING UP - Stargazers at Griffith Park look into the night at Mars as it reaches its nearest point to Earth in 60,000 years.

Visitors to Valley Make Beautiful Music

The Catavino Duo offered music students both entertainment and guidance

BY SUSAN MALTBY
STAFF WRITER

More than 60 people turned out to enjoy Denis Azabajic on guitar and Eugenia Moliner on flute for the Cavatina Duo's performance at the Valley College music recital hall Friday. Azabajic has received multiple international awards and is among elite guitarists in the United States and Europe. He has recorded six CDs, a video and is working on a book on guitar technique. Performing with The New Opus Trio, Moliner has earned acclaim as a musician of excellence and has recorded two CDs.

Valley College has "one of the most outstanding classical guitar concert series in America," said

Robert Mayeur, music department faculty member. Through his 16-year experience as vice president and executive member of the Guitar Foundation of America, Mayeur is able to bring some of the finest musicians in the world to perform at Valley's music recital hall.

"When we play, people often say they can tell we are in love with each other," Moliner said. "The audience can hear that very deep and unique connection within the soul of our music." The pair have been married for 10 years. They first played together in 1993 in Holland, and have been touring together since 1996. The two feel very lucky to share the stage together and present audiences with this exceptional added dimension to their performances.

As prolific competitors traveling the world, Moliner said, "Denis has won more awards than anyone I know." They claim to have taken on the mission to raise the level of repertoire for composers of guitar and flute duos. Composers from around

the world have already taken notice and dedicated new works for them. Based in Chicago, Azabajic is newly appointed to the faculty of Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

Mayeur's classical guitar students are often given the unique opportunity to receive individual instruction from world-class guitarists who come to perform. Student Allan Ault has been studying guitar at Valley for three semesters and said he was very honored to attend a master class with Azabajic.

"It's a great opportunity to learn from a world-renowned artist," Ault said. There were only about 10 students in the class, and Azabajic spent about two and a half hours giving valuable advice. Each student was able to get individual instruction and direction on their technical and expressive range. Ault added, "It really helps your playing to be able to spend some time with a guitarist like Denis. You really learn a lot."

'Speech'

continued from page 1

affordable access to education is being hurt most," Bustamante said, urging all candidates to have a plan to remedy the cuts to community colleges. Access to education is not a partisan issue, Bustamante said.

Bustamante also addressed his protest of the California Broadcasters Association debate, to take place at 6 p.m. tonight.

Bustamante, along with Sen. Tom McClintock, Arianna Huffington and Peter Camejo are expected to hold an alternative debate, outside the CBA's televised event at California State University, Sacramento.

Mona Field, president of the LACCD Board of Trustees, prompted in her introduction of Bustamante, "In normal times the lieutenant governor is the one who would take over if the governor could no longer serve." Field called the recall a distortion of the 1911 recall initiative.

'Hollis'

continued from page 2

"I enjoy anything that involves students," said Hollis, referring to teaching versus being an administrator. "Instead of working for the students, I get to work with them again."

"She has a passion for the basic skills of mathematics," said Dr. Luz Villar Shin, chair of the math department. "She is a huge asset to this school because of that."

Hollis believes in instilling what she calls a "fundamental and old-fashioned" approach to mathematics. She admits that her approach may involve more work for students, but she is confident in the long-term benefits for her students.

"I have had many students who came into my classes struggling with math and over time improved with hard work," said Hollis. "Some of these students went on to major in mathematics. That is a gratifying experience for me."

'Merit'

continued from page 1

California," Hollis said. "It affects test scores and board passage rates; we're below the national average."

At the Trustees meeting, the radiologic technology candidate said he had gone through all the proper channels—"The chancellor's office, the Board of Governors, the legal department, civil rights people, the program's director and the dean of academic affairs. No one takes responsibility."

"The reason for the regulation, I don't know. It was adopted by the Board of Governors," said Associate Vice Chancellor John Clerx, explaining that even his office was powerless to change the policy. "There has been concern, especially among the Nursing faculty. There is an increasing perception that this approach may be flawed."

The District Nursing Discipline, comprised of 48 Nursing Department chairs, is working to change requirements. They are armed with a new study, Rosales said, that proves that "those most likely to be successful in the program have GPAs of 2.5 or higher and have never failed a science. They usually have GPAs in the sciences of 2.8 or higher."

Although Harbor uses the first-come-first-served system, their GPA requirement is 2.5, Hollis said.

Rosales suggested that the GPA bar would ideally be raised to B rather than the present C. "A C in science is 70 percent, but in nursing it's 75 percent. So we're setting up low C's for failure. We're an expensive program; 12 students per instructor because of Board of Registered Nurses regulations. So a failed student is very expensive to the college—and to the community."

Meanwhile, the determination of the student who pleaded his case to the Trustees finally paid off. City College agreed this week to guarantee him admission to its radiologic technology program next semester.

'Waiver'

continued from page 1

or equivalent degree.

"We can continue to bury our heads in the sand and ignore it, but this helps kids who are in this state who have graduated from high school who, we hope will go on to college or learn a trade," said Assemblyman Joe Nation, D-San Rafael. "It's the right thing to do politically, it's the right thing to do socially and it's the right thing to do economically as well."

The legislation comes on the heels of Gov. Gray Davis' controversial signing of SB60, granting undocumented immigrants the right to obtain California driver's licenses.

Davis has not taken a stand on SB328. In 2001, Davis signed AB540, allowing undocumented immigrants to qualify for resident tuition at state-run universities.

"No matter how heartfelt this is," said State Sen. Jim Brulte, R-Rancho Cucamonga. "We're going to raise fees for California citizens and waive fees for illegal immigrants."

"If these people want to study and better their lives, it's fine with me," Valley College student Daniel Villaseñor said.

Others disagree. "This is just another example of outrageous legislation," student Jeff Walsby said. "It's morally wrong, bankrupt and bogus."

'Approval'

continued from page 2

advocacy; educational media and informative advertisements.

Rather than using the available funds for attending more leadership conferences, ASU President James Brevard wanted to leave something more tangible behind for future boards.

"The new computers are definitely needed to help the student body as a whole," Brevard said. "We can squeeze four, maybe five years out of them."

The existing computers are about 6 years old, and will go either through a recycling program or be used elsewhere, Brevard said.

'Grants'

continued from page 1

six additional computers that will be placed in the Transfer Center. It also looks at proposals from other academic departments.

"The [Woodbury University] grant is providing support to academic departments for use in enhancing the educational process," Silvia Rodriguez, dean of admissions and records said. "It's a win/win."

The Workforce Investment Act grant, estimated at \$275,000, is a two-year Valley Career Ladders project that provides support to disadvantaged adults and offers internship opportunities in nursing, office administration and child development.

Partners in this program include the Family Violence Project of Jewish Family Services, Washington Mutual and the childcare resource center. Eligible students work with one of the partners or on campus and are provided with textbooks. They earn credits toward a 12-unit certificate and can apply those toward an associate's degree.

"A lot of people are taking their own initiative," Dean of Economic Development Debra DiCesare said. "They're finding ways to assist their programs, not only because of the budget cuts. We are still waiting for some grants though."

One grant still pending is the H1B Technical Skills Grant, from the U.S. Department of Labor. It is estimated at \$3 million dollars and would offer training to students in high-skill professions.

'RIAA'

continued from page 2

alternative systems that offer better encryption technology.

"I'm not going to stop downloading," said Todd Villegas, who has been downloading music for more than six years. "I'll find other sources besides Kazaa. I'll always buy CDs, but I still like to download music that I wouldn't normally buy."

'Loans'

continued from page 1

Their proposal, which is currently under debate, is a five-part plan that requests the following: Increase of Stafford loan limits, addition of more flexible repayment options, improved loan consolidation program and broader range of loan forgiveness, relief from a debunked 20-year-old "temporary" origination fee.

The loan forgiveness programs include an interest-only plan, including payment of only the accruing interest for two years and a partial interest plan in which high debt/low income borrowers remit half the interest for two years and expansion of the current extended repayment concept.

Current loan policies specify borrower payback within 10 years of graduation, causing difficulty in managing monthly payments for some borrowers.

"The coalition promises to extend loan forgiveness to borrowers leaving school with significant debt and entering low-pay/high-need career fields such as teaching in low-income areas."

"The coming together of this coalition shows the overwhelming support among our members for increasing access to higher education," Consumer Bankers Association President Joe Belew said. "As an industry, we owe it to students to ensure the federal student loan program fully serves their needs."

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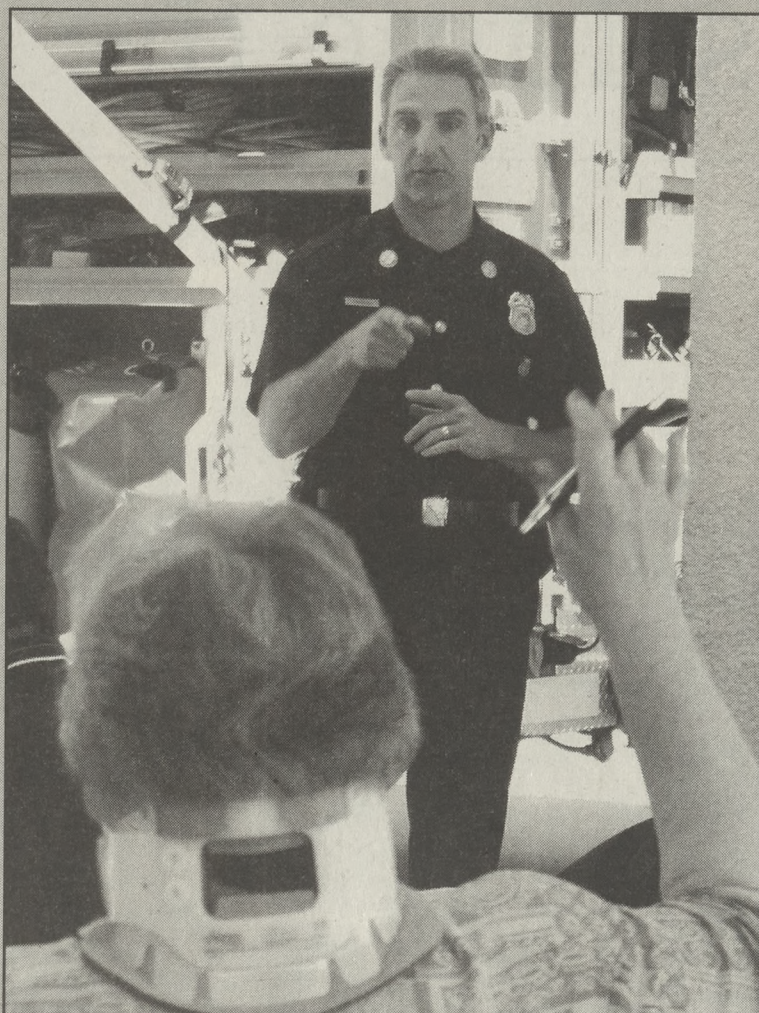
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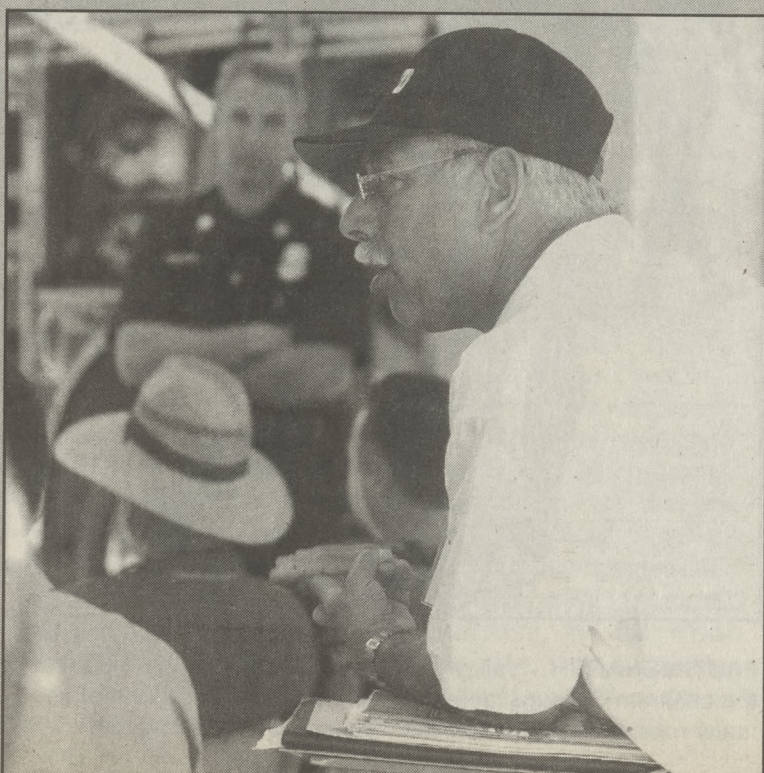
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JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR



JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR



JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR

(above left) **NEED TOOLS?** - Firefighter Scott Michael demonstrates all the variety of tools a fire truck carries to make their job easy and efficient.

(above) **QUESTION** - Los Angeles Fire Department Capt. Tom Haus receives questions from Los Angeles Valley College staff during the emergency plan meeting held by the LAFD a week before the fall semester began.

(left) **SECURITY PLAN** - Chairman of the department of emergency Dr. Allan Cowen talks about important issues regarding the emergency plan for Los Angeles Valley College in a meeting held by the LAFD. The meeting was held in front the flag pole a week before the beginning of the fall semester.

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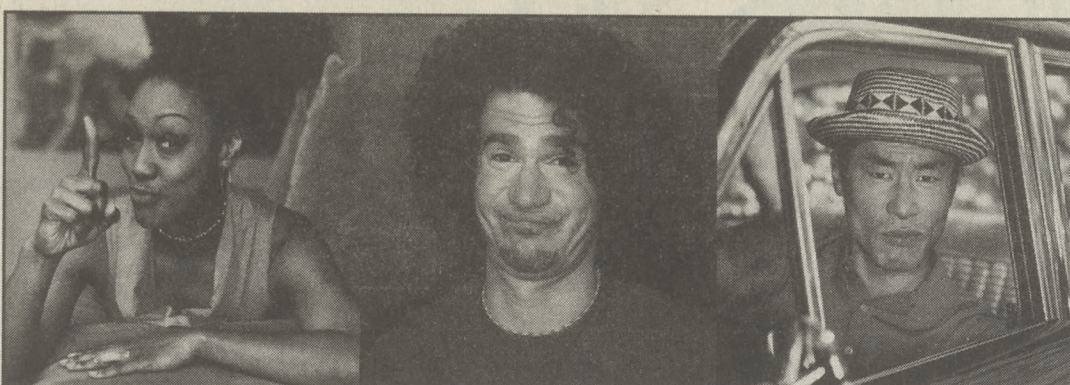
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WSC SOCCER

Monarchs Tame the Bulldogs

■ A clear victory against Hancock College sets the way Monarchs will defend their home.

BY JORGE GALLEGOS
STAFF WRITER

Star forward Karla Soriano scored two goals and midfielder Olga Pedraza added one as the Monarchs shutout the Hancock Bulldogs 3-0 Friday.

The Bulldogs left Valley with their tail between their legs after saying that the Monarchs should lose by forfeit, saving them the long trip, because it was a sure victory for Hancock.

As soon as the referee made her whistle sound, the Monarchs made the Bulldogs eat their words by scoring the first goal seconds after the beginning of the game. Midfielder Nancy Villalta sent a long through-ball to Soriano, who didn't hesitate to shoot by placing the ball with her right red shoe and scoring.

After that goal, the Monarchs were confident that it was a game that they could easily win against a very heavy and ineffective offensive team. A green avalanche covered the visitors' defense by attacking from everywhere; midfielders Sarah Struckhoff and Rosario Soriano ran through the sidelines repeatedly, with team captain Pedraza covering the center midfield with a presence that made the Bulldogs

look like chihuahuas.

That's when the second- and best-goal of the evening came, Pedraza found herself a few yards outside of the box, saw an opening, and without thinking twice, kicked a power shot, leaving the goalkeeper watching the ball pass by and kiss the net.

The third and final goal came after Karla Soriano was fouled around the semi circle, giving Valley a free kick. Olga Pedraza took the ball and kicked it over the defensive wall. The Bulldog's goalkeeper attempted to save the shot, but was unable to do so instead she blocked the ball leaving it bouncing inside the six-yard box. That's when "speedy Karlita" put the ball inside the goal, scoring her fifth goal of the season.

"I felt like it was a revenge because of that foul against me" said Soriano.

By the second half, Valley didn't play with the same intensity. Head coach Eric Archila made some substitutions, giving time to players who hadn't seen a lot of time on the field.

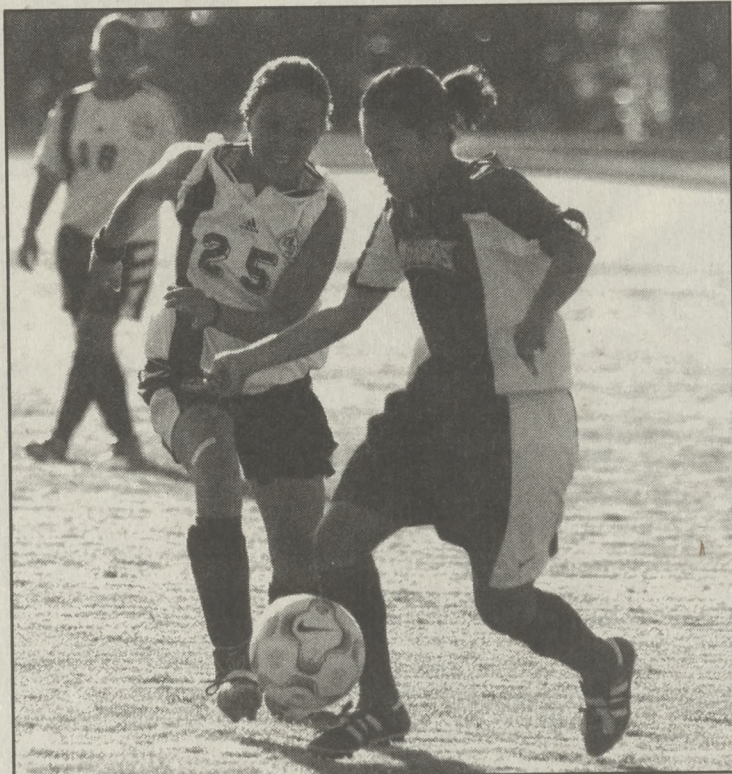
"I'm starting to see a spark of what I envision," Archila said after the game.

The Monarchs head to Glendora Friday to extend their winning ways.



JORGE GALLEGOS/ VALLEY STAR
HEADS UP - Monarch midfielder Sarah Struckhoff jumps for a header against Bulldogs' sweeper Sonia Gonzales in a game won by Valley 3-0 at Monarchs stadium. The match was played Friday, Sept. 19, 2003.

SOCCER Upcoming Schedule Los Angeles Valley College Western State Conference					
Opponent	Date	Time	Opponent	Date	Time
@ Citrus	9/26	4 p.m.	Citrus	10/21	4 p.m.
Bakersfield	9/30	4 p.m.	Bakersfield	10/24	4 p.m.
@ Glendale	10/3	4 p.m.	Glendale	10/28	3 p.m.
Canyons	10/7	4 p.m.	@ Canyons	10/31	1 p.m.
@ Pierce	10/14	4 p.m.	Pierce	11/7	3 p.m.
Santa Monica	10/17	4 p.m.	@ Santa Monica	11/10	3 p.m.



JORGE GALLEGOS/ VALLEY STAR
FAST MONARCH - Valley midfielder Rosario Soriano protects the ball from Bulldogs' defender Nereida Figueroa in one of her many runs throught her left line. Soriano scored two goals.

LAVC SCORES

Football vs. Santa Barbara (L 7-20) 9/20/03 Record: 1-2
Edric Primm: 146 yds rushing, 30 carries Kyle Clay: 12 tackles

Soccer vs. Allan Hancock (W 3-0) 9/19/03 Record: 4-1-1

Women's Water Polo - Mt. Sac Series 9/20/03 Record: 6-3
Valley vs. San Diego Grossmont (W 10-9)
Valley vs. Mt. Sac (W 10-9)
Valley vs. San Diego Mesa (W 16-4)
Valley vs. Mt. Sac (L 3-6)

Water Polo (M) vs. El Camino (W 13-12) 9/9/03 Record: 2-3

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 9/24/03 Women's Water Polo @ Citrus All day	Thursday 9/25/03 No Scheduled Games
Friday 9/26/03 Men's Water Polo @ Mt. Sac 3 p.m. Soccer @ Citrus 4 p.m.	Saturday 9/27/03 Cross Country @ Hunt. Beach 10 a.m. Football @ Bakersfield 7 p.m.
Sunday 9/28/03 No Scheduled Games	Tuesday 9/30/03 Soccer vs. Bakersfield 4 p.m. M. Water Polo @ Rio Hondo 4:30 p.m.

PRO SCORES

L.A. Galaxy vs. D.C. UNITED (W 1-0) 9/20/03
Scoring Summary: LAG - Carlos Ruiz 1 goal

An. Angels vs. Seattle Mariners (L 5-1) 9/22/03
WP: J. Moyer (20-7) LP: J. Washburn (10-15)

L.A. Dodgers @ San Diego Padres (L 9-5) 9/22/03
WP: M. Bynum (1-3) LP: O. Perez (12-12)

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

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IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"She's playing hard, but disciplined. Tht's the way we need it to be."

Eric Achila,
Head Soccer Coach, on the qualities of team captain Olga Pedraza.

Penalties, Turnovers Sack Monarchs in 20-7 Loss

BY JAYSON ADDCOX
SPORTS EDITOR

Valley's offense turned the ball over four times and only scored one touchdown in a 20-7 loss to Santa Barbara Saturday evening. The defense was sharp- once again not allowing Santa Barbara a first down until their seventh possession, but it wasn't enough.

"Our defense stayed focused the whole game, we didn't get tired even though we were on the field a lot, were well conditioned," Jarrel Batson said.

Despite another great game by the Western State Conference's leading rusher Edric Primm the offense could not get it going and had to punt seven times. Primm rushed for 146 yards on 30 carries and had the only touchdown of the game.

"I just kept running hard, but all that doesn't matter unless we win. We got to get it together,"

Primm said as he walked to the locker room.

Santa Barbara's offense didn't do anything special throughout the game; they ran the ball early but were unable to get a first down until late in the second quarter. However, with 24 seconds left in the first half, quarterback Preston Maloney hooked up with running back Willie Alexander for a 40-yard touchdown pass to put them up 7-0.

The Monarchs rushed out of the gates after half-time behind Primm's 45-yard run that put them first goal at the two-yard line. Primm dazzled, taking a pitch right and cutting up against the grain, spinning off would-be tacklers and using his speed to beat everyone down the sideline. He capped off the drive with a two-yard run, tying the game at seven.

Things went down hill from there, the offense became stagnant and the defense got penal-

ized a few times, allowing Santa Barbara to punch in another touchdown early in the fourth quarter.

"We got penalized heavily again, misalignments and illegal procedure penalties are just inexcusable," head coach Ron Ponciano said.

The defense got some solid performances from a few players. Freshmen linebacker Glen McIntyre had 15 tackles, four of them for a loss. Safety Kyle Clay carried a heavy helmet recording 12 tackles. Defensive end Tearrius George recorded eight tackles and one sack, while his partner in crime, fellow defensive end Rashaad Goodrum, had 12 tackles, five of them for a loss.

"Santa Barbara didn't do anything special, they just kept running to the weak side. Coach is going get on us and we just got to put this behind us," Goodrum said after the game.



JORDAN DINAPOLI/VALLEY STAR
ON THE RUN - Valley running back and Western State Conference leading rusher Edric Primm outruns Santa Barbara's defense in the first quarter of the Monarchs' 7-20 loss to the Vaqueros Sept. 20, 2003.

NOTES

NFL
Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis broke the NFL single-game rushing record Sunday afternoon rushing for 295 yards on 30 carries. He Predicted the feat earlier in the week in phone conversation with Cleveland Brown's linebacker Andra Davis.

NFL
Jarrod Cooper, a defensive back for the Carolina Panthers, was arrested Tuesday and charged with a DUI and possession of a controlled substance. The team will wait for more information before they take disciplinary actions.

MLB
The Oakland Athletics extended their lead in the American League West to four games, but lost their starting right fielder Jose Guillen for the rest of the regular season. Guillen broke his hand on a swing in the second inning, injury that should sideline the slugger for at least six weeks.

MLB
San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds hit his 655th home-run Monday putting him exactly 100 homeruns behind the all-time leader Hank Aaron.

MLB
The Los Angeles Dodgers resume a crucial 14-game stretch at home against the Arizona Diamondbacks Wednesday. The Dodgers are just two and a half games back in the National League Wild Card race and have won 13 of their last 17 games behind a stellar pitching staff.

MLB
Anaheim Angels television Rex Hudler was officially suspended for the season by the Angels organization. hudler was initially placed on leave after he was charged with possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

NCAA FOOTBALL
Attorneys for the suspended Ohio State running back Maurice Clarrett entered a 'not guilty' plea on his behalf Monday. Clarrett is charged with a misdemeanor falsification charge, which carries a maximum six-month jail sentence.

SPORTS

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9

AN OPINION

MLB Wildcard Races Heat Up in Final Week

BY JONATHAN MAKIRI
STAFF WRITER

Seventeen teams still vying for playoff spots with less than a month to go in the season? Sounds like the end of another NBA season, right? Wrong! We're talking baseball!

Major League Baseball has the wild-card race to thank for the unprecedented excitement around a majority of the league's stadiums this September.

In the National League, both Atlanta and San Francisco have run away with their respective divisions, leaving the Central as the only true division race left in the senior circuit.

Yet in the last week of September, eight teams are still alive for the NL Wild Card: Los Angeles, Arizona, Philadelphia, Florida, Montreal, Houston, St. Louis and the Chicago Cubs were separated by five games or less, setting up a dramatic last month to the season.

All three division races in the American League were still up for grabs as of Sept. 23 with seven teams; Seattle, Oakland, Minnesota, the Chicago White Sox, Kansas City, Boston and the New York Yankees, still fighting for four trips to the magical month of October.

This is exactly what baseball owners and executives envisioned 10 years ago when they expanded the playoffs from two division winners from the National and American leagues, to three division winners plus a wild-card representative from each league. The wild-card race keeps fans tuned in through

the season from markets all over North America, boosting both attendance and ratings. Small market teams such as Kansas City, Minnesota and Montreal—teams that barely consider competing with big market clubs from New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, find a lasting purpose to their season.

Important games are being played all over the country this September. Take Sept. 7 for example — where 15 of the 16 games played that day had playoff implications.

If the old system were still in effect today, with only four division winners qualifying for the playoffs, the Giants and Braves would have been resting their best players during a nonexistent pennant race, while the American League would only have four teams; the Mariners, A's, Red Sox and Yankees competing for division crowns. The remaining 24 teams would be fielding minor-league lineups and spitting optimism about "next year".

Never has the argument been stronger for wild-card supporters who have battled baseball purists over the 10-year-old experiment. Baseball purists such as sportscaster Bob Costas have muttered their disliking for the wild-card over the years, claiming that it rewards mediocre teams and strays from baseball's rich tradition.

But if you just look back to last year's World Series, where the wild-card Anaheim Angels defeated the wild-card San Francisco Giants in a thrilling seven game series, the purists' grumble has become as stale as a sacrifice fly.

WSC SPORTS

Individual Statistics - WSC Hitting

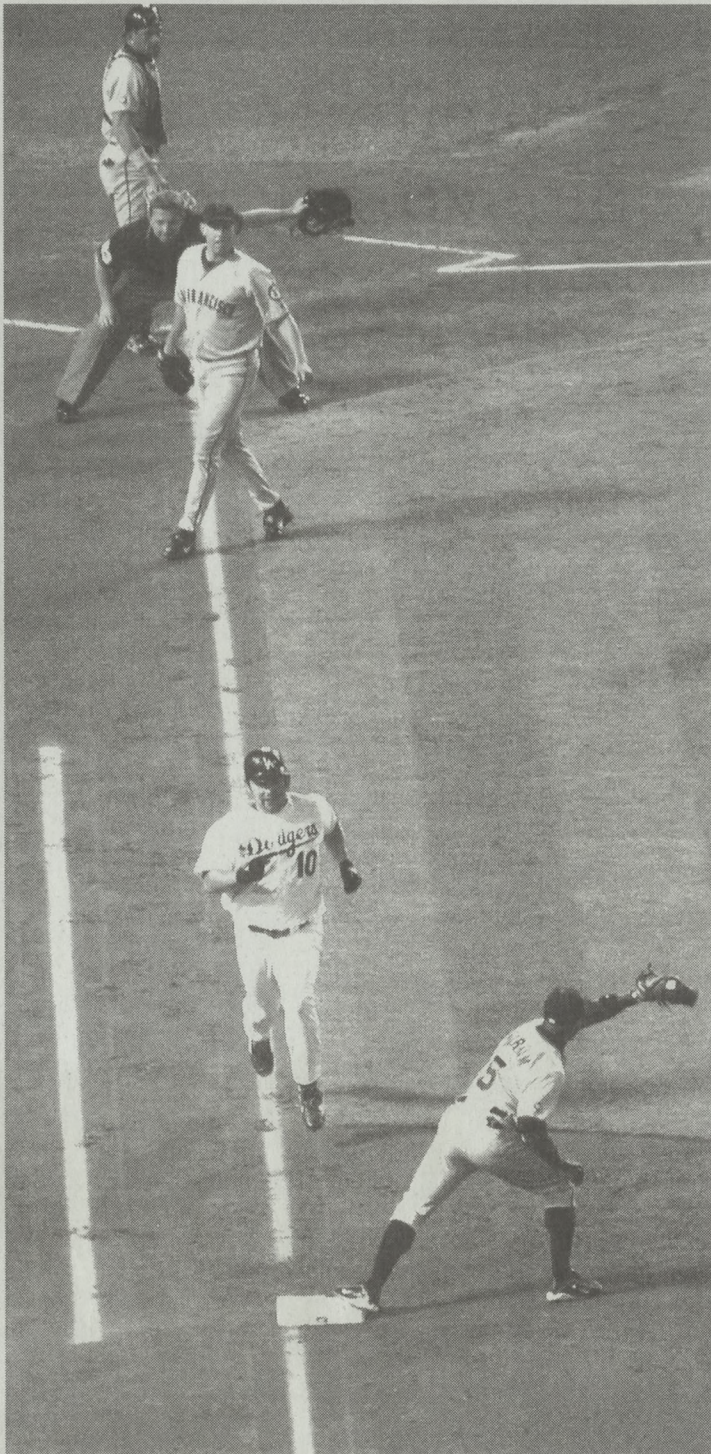
	AB	R	H	AVG.
J. Ostrand, Hancock	39	11	23	.590
A. Ortiz, Canyons	33	15	19	.576
Rundle, Citrus	61	15	30	.492
B. Montemayor, Canyons	34	13	16	.471
C. Reyes, Hancock	47	11	22	.468
B. Roberts, Cuesta	48	13	22	.458
J. Mayberry, Canyons	30	11	13	.433
R. Pipho, Canyons	35	6	15	.429
J. Roe, Hancock	7	1	3	.429
A. Petersen, Glendale	48	16	20	.417
J. Shreck, Canyons	35	11	14	.400
G. Denning, Cuesta	33	5	13	.394
A. Cheverier, L.A. Valley	42	5	16	.380
B. Sharpe, Citrus	49	11	18	.367
T. DeBont, Bakersfield	52	7	19	.365
E. Peach, Moorpark	33	6	12	.364
A. O'Dell, Citrus	58	12	21	.362
J. Arisohn, Moorpark	36	11	13	.361
T. Wonjick, Canyons	31	7	11	.355
C. Janowicz, Cuesta	51	11	18	.353
R. Machado, Bakersfield	54	12	19	.352
D. Kelly, Cuesta	37	10	13	.351
A. Rondou, Canyons	37	7	13	.351
Dohling, Citrus	52	10	18	.346
B. Welles, Glendale	47	11	16	.340

Individual Statistics - WSC RBI

	School	RBI
A. O'Dell	Citrus	15
F. Ishivasha	L.A. Pierce	14
B. Lee	L.A. Pierce	13
A. Petersen	Glendale	13
J. Mayberry	Canyons	12
B. Montemayor	Canyons	12
J. Shreck	Canyons	12
J. Burton	Hancock	12
D. Kelly	Cuesta	12
R. Machado	Bakersfield	12
L. Corenbach	Glendale	12

Women's Softball - Pitching

Player	School	W-L
Nina Van Allen	Cuesta	4-0
Jeani Lagerstrom	Bakersfield	5-0
Lindsay Vincent	Bakersfield	8-1
Cassie Davis	Cuesta	2-2
Jennifer McCarty	Canyons	9-0
Monica Cerda	Moorpark	5-2
Tammy Anderson	Ventura	3-0
Julie Jimenez	L.A. Mission	2-1
Monique Velasquez	Ventura	2-1
Cassandra Shires	Canyons	3-1
Katie Bieniek	Moorpark	5-2
Laura Hedrick	Citrus	2-6
Candice Perez	Hancock	5-5
Julie Hartnell	Ventura	3-2
Jessica Nelson	L.A. Valley	0-4



BOB TEICHMANN/ VALLEY STAR

IN THE HUNT - With only five games left in the season, the Los Angeles Dodgers are out of time. Here, pitcher Hideo Nomo runs to first base against the Giants Saturday, Sept. 20.

Midfield Well Covered

Olga Pedraza is all over the field at Valley

BY JORGE GALLEGOS
STAFF WRITER

This year's Lady Monarchs soccer squad presents a new and refreshing face, a winning one. Team captain Olga Pedraza has vastly improved the revamped squad.

The 19-year-old midfielder, born in Sonora, Mexico, sees a very promising season for the Monarchs, given the talent of her teammates and their chemistry.

Olga played for Los Angeles City College last year and followed her coach, Eric Archila, and his winning attitude to Valley. Her experience here has been as positive as she expected, and now her goal is to reach the playoffs this year, and maybe a little more.

"We want to make history by winning (Valley's first) conference championship (in women's soccer)," Pedraza said. Next year, she plans to transfer to a university that would offer her a scholarship to play soccer.

Soccer hasn't always been easy for Olga. From an early age her father told her that soccer was only for men, but that only fostered the urge to play harder and show him she could "become the first woman soccer player (in the family)," she said.

The talented midfielder got her first soccer ball when she was 10 years old. "I always passed by this sports store and saw the ball behind the store's window. It was very big and very, very shiny. One day I went inside the store and started to play with the ball and all of a sudden I just ran outside with it and the ball was mine," Olga said. She blushed as she realized she had admitted stealing the ball.

"La Negra," as coach Archila refers to her, credits her coach for most of her success. Not only has Ac given her the chance to play for a very solid Monarch team, he has pushed her and given her the support she needs to get to the next level.



JORGE GALLEGOS/ VALLEY STAR

Olga Pedraza, 2003 Monarchs soccer captain.
CITRUS COLLEGE Glendora, CA Friday 4 p.m.

Women's Water Polo Finishes Second at Mt. SAC

BY JAYSON ADDCOX
SPORTS EDITOR

Being ranked among the top 10 in the state and advancing to the championship game in the Mt. San Antonio tournament was just the opening act for these talented young women.

The Lady Monarchs water polo team may not have enjoyed the climax as they lost the championship game Saturday, 16-4, but it was against the top team in the state, Golden West.

"Golden West was too fast and too experienced for us at this time in the season," coach Bill Krauss said.

The ladies began the tournament by edging Grossmont College 10-9 behind a three goal performance by Ashley Dill and eight saves by Caroline Bohbot.

"As the goalie I could see that the team was playing together," Bohbot said. "The defense was

intense all weekend."

The Monarchs topped Mt. SAC 10-9 to advance to the semifinal game. It didn't come without suspense, though - a stunning, game-winning goal by Trisha Prudencio with one second left in the fourth quarter pulled off the victory.

In the semifinal game against San Diego Mesa they jumped ahead early and won 12-8. Megan Winchell and Jessie Stiles each had four goals as the Monarchs steamed into the championship game.

"The team really started to play together in this tournament, and it's just the beginning of the season," sophomore Kristina Garcia said.

The Monarchs (6-3) expect to make a strong run in conference play, which begins in October. "Our focus is to win the conference and get to the playoffs," Krauss said.



JORDAN DINAPOLI/ VALLEY STAR

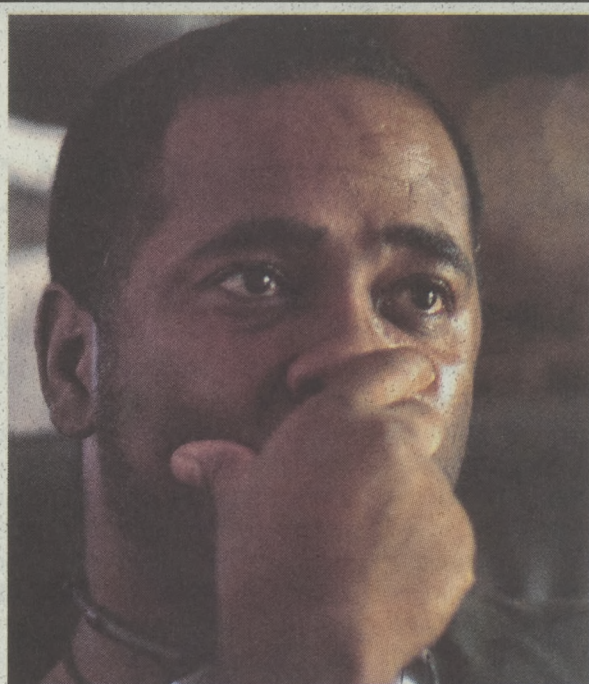
HEADS UP - San Diego Mesa goalie Kimberly Fortson misses a block during a 8-12 loss against Valley Sept. 20, 2003.



Photo by Jorge Gallegos

GALLERY

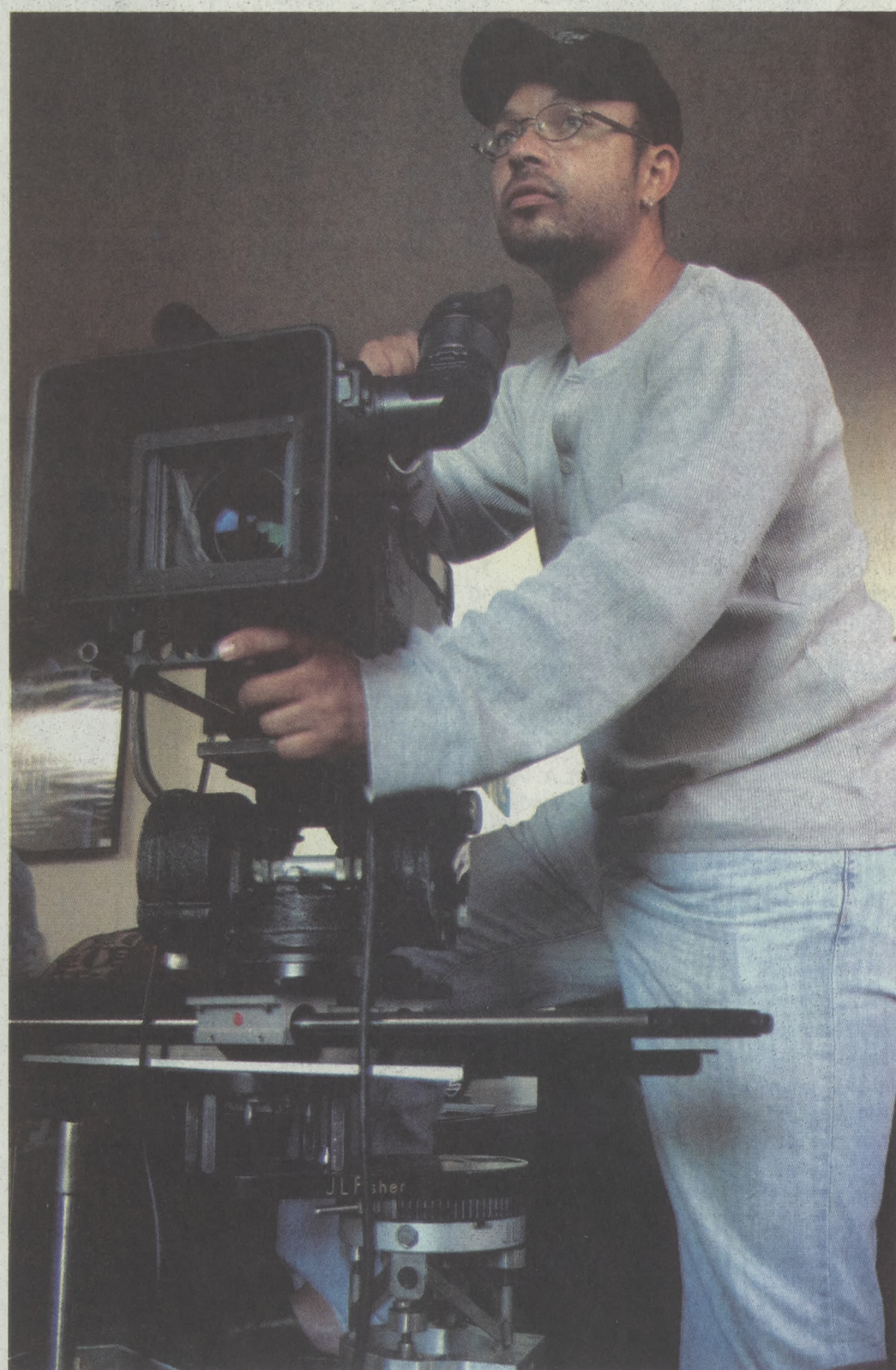
MONARCHS MAKING MOVIES



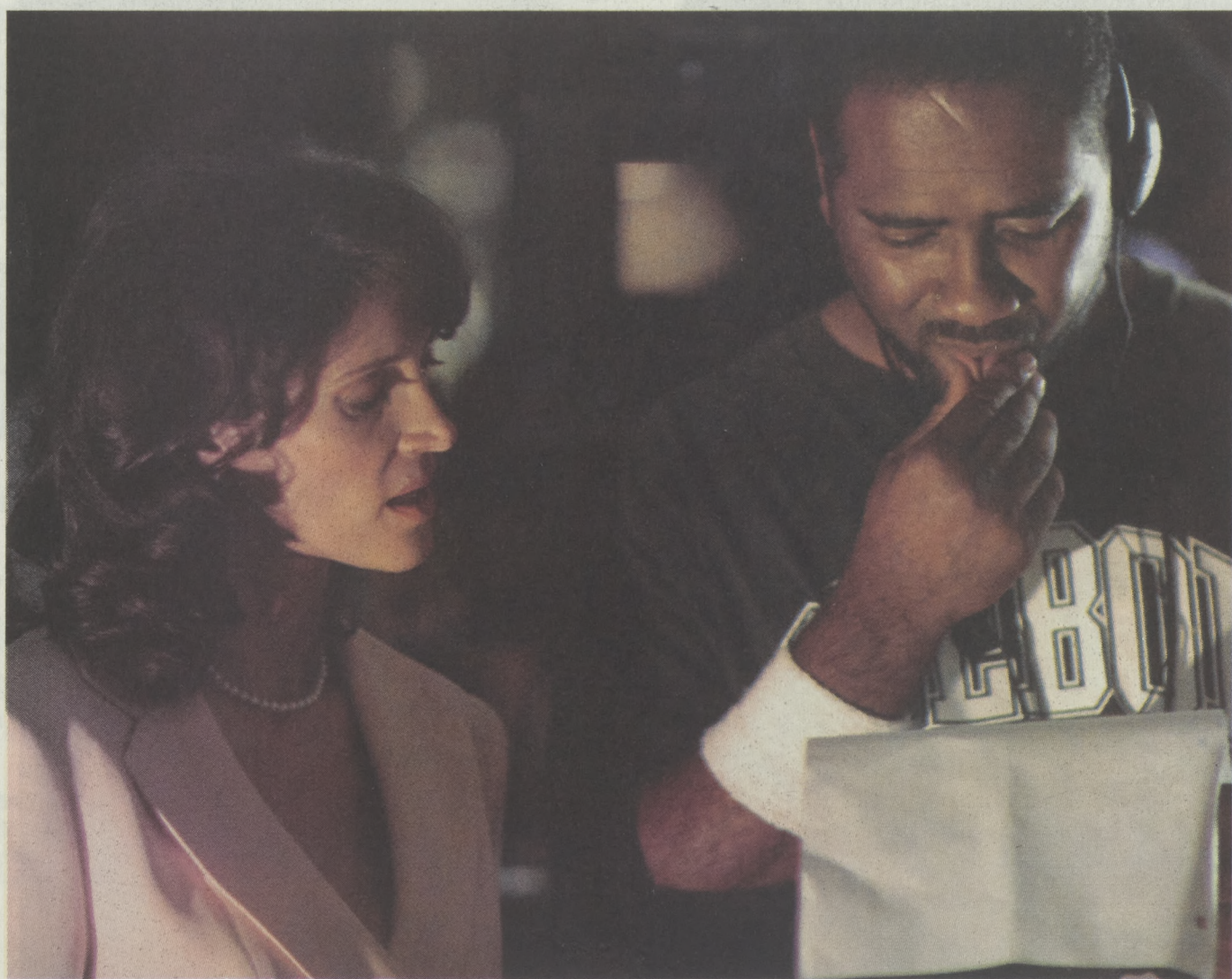
THE CREW AT WORK - (from left to right) boom operator Jason Brooks, dolly grip Dave Zera, director Tim Johnson, director of photography Hank Baumert and 1st ac Jeff Saldin.

ON THE SET - Valley College alumni Tim Johnson and Hank Baumert are living their dreams as film makers. Tim Johnson, a director, is currently working on his second project, "White Paper and Dark Rooms." Director of photography Hank Baumert, went on from Valley to graduate from Columbia Film School, and has shot dozens of films, many of which have been showcased in numerous film festivals.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY JORDAN DiNAPOLI



PICTURE'S UP - Monarch alumni Hank Baumert approves the lighting set up for the shot.



REHEARSAL'S UP - Director Tim Johnson discusses a scene with actress Rebecca Ritz.